

COUNTY COUNCIL  
OF  
HARFORD COUNTY, MARYLAND  
BILL NO. 95-10 (as amended)

Introduced by Council Members Glassman, Wagner, Chenowith, Decker  
and Shank and Council President Parrott

Legislative Day No. 95-6 Date February 21, 1995

AN ACT to add new Section 225-12, Notice of Bridge Projects to Volunteer Fire Companies, to Article III, General Regulations, of Chapter 225, Streets, Sidewalks and Public Works, of the Harford County Code, as amended; to require that notice of certain capital bridge projects be given to volunteer fire companies, under certain circumstances; to require that volunteer fire companies perform certain duties after receiving such notices; to require that volunteer fire companies use certain standards in performing one of these duties; to require that the county provide access to water for firefighting purposes as part of certain capital bridge projects, under certain circumstances; to give the county the option of providing such access under certain circumstances; to require the Department of Public Works to establish a certain program for review of certain bridges to determine whether access for firefighting use would be appropriate; and generally relating to capital projects.

By the Council, February 21, 1995

Introduced, read first time, ordered posted and public hearing scheduled

on: March 21, 1995

at: 7:00 p.m.

By Order: James D. Vannoy, Acting Secretary

**PUBLIC HEARING**

Having been posted and notice of time and place of hearing and title of Bill having been published according to the Charter, a public hearing was held on March 21, 1995, and concluded on, March 21, 1995

James D. Vannoy, Acting Secretary

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW. [Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law. Underlining indicates language added to Bill by amendment. Language lined through indicates matter stricken out of Bill by amendment.

WHEREAS, The ready availability of reliable water sources for volunteer fire companies helps the companies reduce their response times, and shorter response times help save lives and reduce property damage; and

WHEREAS, Reliable water sources for firefighting are especially important in the rural areas of the county, where a public water supply is not available; and

WHEREAS, Such water sources often result in reduced fire insurance rates for homeowners who live nearby; and

WHEREAS, The provision of standpipes and other types of access to water as part of county capital bridge projects would be a cost-effective method of providing volunteer fire companies with reliable water sources for firefighting;

NOW, THEREFORE,  
Section 1. Be It Enacted By The County Council of Harford County, Maryland, That new Section 225-12, Notice of Bridge Projects to Volunteer Fire Companies, be, and it is hereby, added to Article III, General Regulations, of Chapter 225, Streets, Sidewalks and Public Works, of the Harford County Code, as amended, to read as follows:

Chapter 225. Streets, Sidewalks and Public Works.

Article III. General Regulations.

SECTION 225-12. NOTICE OF BRIDGE PROJECTS TO VOLUNTEER FIRE COMPANIES.

A. WITHIN ~~30~~ 15 CALENDAR DAYS AFTER THE COUNTY COUNCIL MAKES THE INITIAL APPROPRIATION OF FUNDS FOR A CAPITAL PROJECT INVOLVING THE CONSTRUCTION OR REPAIR OF A BRIDGE LOCATED IN AN AREA WHERE

1 PUBLIC WATER SERVICE IS NOT AVAILABLE, THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC  
2 WORKS SHALL SEND WRITTEN NOTICE OF THE PROJECT TO THE VOLUNTEER  
3 ~~FIRE COMPANY WHICH SERVES THE AREA.~~ DIVISION OF EMERGENCY  
4 OPERATIONS.

5 B. WITHIN 15 CALENDAR DAYS AFTER RECEIVING THE NOTICE, THE  
6 DIVISION OF EMERGENCY OPERATIONS SHALL SEND WRITTEN NOTICE OF THE  
7 PROJECT TO THE VOLUNTEER FIRE COMPANY WHICH SERVES THE AREA.

8 ~~B C.~~ WITHIN 30 CALENDAR DAYS AFTER RECEIVING THE NOTICE, THE  
9 FIRE COMPANY SHALL:

10 (1) DETERMINE WHETHER THE STREAM OR BODY OF WATER SPANNED  
11 BY THE BRIDGE IS SUITABLE FOR FIREFIGHTING USE; AND

12 (2) PROVIDE WRITTEN NOTICE TO THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC  
13 WORKS OF THE FOLLOWING INFORMATION:

14 (a) WHETHER THE WATER IS SUITABLE FOR FIREFIGHTING  
15 USE;

16 (b) WHETHER THE FIRE COMPANY IS REQUESTING THAT THE  
17 DEPARTMENT PROVIDE ACCESS TO THE WATER AS PART OF THE CAPITAL  
18 PROJECT; AND

19 (c) IF THE ACCESS IS REQUESTED, THE METHOD OF  
20 ACCESS TO BE PROVIDED.

21 ~~E D.~~ IF THE ESTIMATED COST OF PROVIDING ACCESS TO THE WATER  
22 IS \$5,000 OR LESS, THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS SHALL PROVIDE THE  
23 ACCESS AS PART OF THE CAPITAL PROJECT.

24 ~~D E.~~ IF THE ESTIMATED COST OF PROVIDING ACCESS TO THE WATER  
25 IS MORE THAN \$5,000, THE DIRECTOR OF ADMINISTRATION SHALL DETERMINE  
26 WHETHER THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS WILL PROVIDE THE ACCESS AS

1 PART OF THE CAPITAL PROJECT.

2 E F. IN DETERMINING WHETHER A SUPPLY OF WATER IS SUITABLE FOR  
3 FIREFIGHTING USE, THE FIRE COMPANY SHALL USE THE STANDARDS  
4 ESTABLISHED IN THE INTERNATIONAL FIRE SERVICE TRAINING ASSOCIATION  
5 PUBLICATION "WATER SUPPLIES FOR FIRE PROTECTION," OR OTHER  
6 STANDARDS ESTABLISHED BY THE HARFORD COUNTY VOLUNTEER FIRE AND  
7 AMBULANCE ASSOCIATION, INC.

8 Section 2. And Be It Further Enacted, That the Department of  
9 Public Works shall, in cooperation with the Harford County  
10 Volunteer Fire and Ambulance Association, Inc., establish a program  
11 for review of those existing bridges within the County which are  
12 not scheduled for capital improvements under the County's Six Year  
13 Capital Improvement Program to determine those bridges where it  
14 would be both suitable and necessary to establish an access to  
15 water for firefighting use.

16 ~~Section 2.~~ Section 3. And Be It Further Enacted, That this Act  
17 shall take effect 60 calendar days from the date it becomes law.

18 EFFECTIVE: June 9, 1995  
19  
20  
21

95-10

AS AMENDED

HARFORD COUNTY BILL NO. 95-10 (as amended)(Brief Title) Bridge Projects - Notice to Fire Companies

is herewith submitted to the County Council of Harford County for enrollment as being the text as finally passed.

CERTIFIED TRUE AND CORRECT

ENROLLED

James D. Vannoy  
Acting Secretary  
of the Council

Joanne A. Barritt  
President of the Council

Date April 4, 1995Date 4/4/95

BY THE COUNCIL

Read the third time.

Passed: LSD 95-10 (April 4, 1995)

Failed of Passage: \_\_\_\_\_

By Order

James D. Vannoy  
Acting Secretary

Sealed with the County Seal and presented to the County Executive for approval this 5th day of April, 1995 at 3:00 p. m.

James D. Vannoy  
Acting Secretary

BY THE EXECUTIVE

Eileen M. Rehmann  
COUNTY EXECUTIVE

APPROVED: Date April 10, 1995

BY THE COUNCIL

This Bill (No. 95-10, as amended), having been approved by the Executive and returned to the Council, becomes law on April 10, 1995.

James D. Vannoy  
Acting Secretary

EFFECTIVE DATE: June 9, 1995

95-10

AS AMENDED